



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Timothy A. Chuter

Group No.: 3308
Examiner: D. Brittingham

Serial No: 07 / 782,696

Filed: October 25, 1991

For: Expandable Transluminal Graft Prosthesis for Repair of Aneurysm and Method of Implanting

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE
MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE
OF ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(c))**

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed . . . before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under § 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, provided the statement is accompanied by either a certification as specified in paragraph (e) of this section or the fee set forth in § 1.17(p)." 37 CFR 1.97(c).

NOTE: "If a final action or notice of allowance is mailed in an application and later withdrawn, the application will be considered as not having had a final action or notice of allowance mailed for purposes of considering an information disclosure statement." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: Next Action:

(a) Certification:

"If information submitted during the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(c) with a certification is used in a new ground of rejection on unamended claims, the next Office action will not be made final since in this situation it is clear that applicant has submitted the information to the office promptly after it has become known and the information is being submitted prior to a final determination on patentability by the Office. However, the information submitted with a certification can be used in a new ground of rejection and the next Office action made final, [i]f the new ground of rejection was necessitated by amendment of the application by applicant."

(b) Fee:

"Where the information is submitted during this period with a fee, the examiner may use the information submitted, e.g., printed publication or evidence of public use, and make the next Office action final whether or not the claims have been amended, provided that no other new ground of rejection which was not necessitated by amendment to the claims is introduced by the examiner. See MPEP 706.07(a). If a new ground of rejection is introduced that is neither necessitated by an amendment to the claims nor based on the information submitted with the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p), the Office action shall not be made final." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jennifer L. Kapp
(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Date: March 31, 1993

[Signature]
(Signature of person mailing paper)

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Before Mailing Date of Either A Final
Action Or Notice of Allowance [6-4]—page 1 of 3)

**TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either:
- (1) a final action under § 1.113 or
(2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311,
whichever occurs first.

CERTIFICATION OR FEE

2. Accompany this transmittal is

(check either A or B below)

- A. ☒ a certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e)

OR

- B. ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c). (\$200.00).

FEE PAYMENT

(complete this item if applicable)

3. Applicant elects the option to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c) (\$200.00).

Fee due \$ _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE

4.


- ☐ attached is check in the amount of \$ _____
☐ charge Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____

A duplicate of this request is attached.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Account _____

Reg. No. 30,056

Tel. No.: § 17) 463-7537

 Richard J. Godlewski: March 30, 1993

SIGNATURE OR ATTORNEY

Richard J. Godlewski

Type or print name of attorney

P.O. Address

P.O. Box 2256, West Lafayette, IN 47906



3308

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33X 4/16

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Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATION FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 CFR 1.97(e))

NOTE: A certification must state either: "(1) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, or (2) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certificate after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement." 37 CFR 1.97(e).

NOTE: "Section 1.97(e) makes it clear that a certification could contain either of two statements. One statement is that each item of information in an information disclosure statement was cited in a search report from a patent office outside the U.S. not more than three months prior to the filing date of the statement. Under this certification, it would not matter whether any individual with a duty actually knew about any of the information cited before receiving the search report. In the alternative, the certification could state that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making **reasonable inquiry**, was known to any individual having a duty to disclose more than three months prior to the filing of the statement." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 13. (emphasis added). Thus: "If an item of information is submitted within three months of being cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the certification can be properly made regardless of any individual's previous knowledge of the information." *Id.*, 1135 O.G. at 19.

NOTE: "The certification can be based on present, good faith knowledge about when information became known without a search of files being made." Thus, for example, the certification of § 1.97(e) does not preclude the use of the certification in an application by corporations whose practitioners have over the years reviewed thousands of patents and technical publications, even though they are unaware of the relevance of anyone thereof to the application. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-15, at 19.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date:

March 31, 1993

Jennifer L. Kapp

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper)

Jennifer L. Kapp

(Signature of person mailing paper)

NOTE: A copy of the foreign search report need not be submitted with the certification. Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 40).

NOTE: "The phrase 'after making reasonable inquiry' makes it clear that the individual making the certification has a duty to make reasonable inquiry regarding the facts that are being certified. The certification can be made by a registered practitioner who represents a foreign client and who relies on statements made by the foreign client as to the date the information first became known. A registered practitioner who receives information from a client without being informed whether the information was known for more than three months, however, cannot make the certification without making reasonable inquiry. For example, if an inventor gave a publication to the attorney prosecuting an application with the intent that it be cited to the Office, the attorney should inquire as to when that inventor became aware of the publication and should not submit a certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2) to the Office until a satisfactory response is received. The certification can be based on present, good faith knowledge about when information became known without a search of files being made." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "Although it is recognized that an individual actually becomes aware of the information in the communication from a foreign patent office sometime after it was mailed, the **mailing date** of such a communication, if it occurs prior to a first awareness of the same information, would determine the date for filing of an information disclosure statement without a fee" in a certification procedure under § 1.97(e). Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 19 (emphasis added).

NOTE: "The certification under § 1.97(e) should be made by a person who has knowledge of the facts being certified. The certification can be made by a practitioner who represents a foreign client and who relies on statements made by the foreign client as to the date the information first became known. A practitioner who receives information from a client without being informed whether the information was known for more than three months, however, cannot make the certification without making reasonable inquiry." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 19.

NOTE: "The term counterpart foreign patent application means that a claim for priority has been made in either the U.S. application or a foreign application based on the other, or that the disclosures of the U.S. and foreign patent applications are substantively identical (e.g., an application filed in the European Patent Office claiming the same U.K. priority as claimed in the U.S. application)." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor." 37 CFR 1.56(d) and

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) each inventor named in the application:

(2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 CFR 1.56(c).

IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION IS BEING MADE

1. This certification is being made for the Information Disclosure Statement

☒ accompanying this certification

☐ filed _____
(date)

CERTIFICATION

2. I, the person(s) signing below certify

- (check appropriate item)*
- with respect to items AA-AC,
- ☒ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

NOTE: The three month period starts from the mailing date of the foreign patent office communication. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 19. The mailing date is the "date on the communication by the foreign patent office." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

AND

- with respect to items AD and AE,
- ☒ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

NOTE: "The time at which information 'was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c)' is the time when the information was discovered in association with the application even if awareness of the materiality came later." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 40).

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON(S) MAKING THIS CERTIFICATION

3. The person making this certification is

(check each applicable item (a) and/or (b))

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

Type name of inventor who is signing

- (b) A person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application, and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee, or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application (37 CFR 1.56(c)) and who signs below.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON

Type name of person who is signing

Address of person who is signing

Identify relationship of person signing to this application

- (c) ☒ the attorney who signs below on the basis of:

(check each applicable item)

- ☒ the information supplied by the inventor(s)
- the information supplied by an individual designated in § 1.56(c)
- ☒ the information in the attorney's file

(Certification on Filing Information Disclosure Statement [6-8]—page 4 of 4)

NOTE: "Certification need not be in the form of an oath or a declaration under 37 CFR 1.68. Certification by a registered practitioner or any other individual that the statement was filed within the three-month period of either first citation by a foreign patent office or first discovery of the information will be accepted as dispositive of compliance with this provision in the absence of evidence to the contrary." . . . "A statement on information and belief would not be sufficient." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39-40).

Reg. No.: 30,056

Tel. No. (317) 463-7537


SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

Richard J. Godlewski

Type or print name of attorney

P.O. Box 2256, West Lafayette, IN 47906

P.O. Address